

**MONTANA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF LIVESTOCK**  
**ANIMAL HEALTH DIVISION**  
**OFFICIAL ORDER NO. 07-02-D**

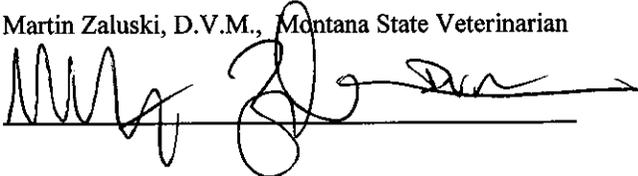
**DATE:** November 5, 2007

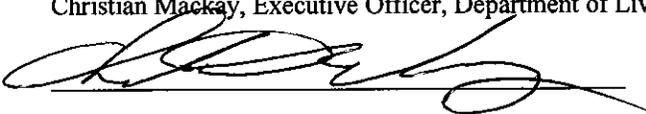
**DATE EFFECTIVE:** November 8, 2007

**DATE BOARD APPROVAL:** November 6, 2007

**SUBJECT:** Trichomonas Foetus New Administrative Rule

**STATUTORY AUTHORIZATION:** § 81-2-102(1)(d) Montana Code Annotated, and § 32.3.103, 32-3-104, 32.3.105, 32.3.116, Administrative Rules of Montana.

**ORDERED BY:** Martin Zaluski, D.V.M., Montana State Veterinarian  


**REVIEWED BY:** Christian Mackay, Executive Officer, Department of Livestock  


**Background:**

A single InPouch test has a sensitivity of 70-80% and is not specific for Trichomonas foetus but for any Trichomonad organism, the PCR has long been the gold standard for differentiating the species. Current scientific information has demonstrated that the Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test is now being used by AAVLD (American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians) for primary testing for Trichomonas foetus as well as for secondary definitive diagnosis. These accredited AAVLD laboratories in Colorado, Texas, Utah and New Mexico have been using the PCR test as an initial test for several years and have information substantiating that it has increased specificity and sensitivity over the InPouch culture method. Because Montana ARM 32.3.501 defines "Official trichomoniasis test" to include PCR testing as well as microscopic examination, in vitro cultivation, or other test approved by the state veterinarian, we believe the science supports this change.

**ORDER**

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT FROM THE EFFECTIVE DATE SET FORTH ABOVE, UNTIL AMENDED BY STATUTE, RULE, OR OFFICIAL ORDER, ; ARM Sec. 32.3.502 THE OFFICIAL TRICHOMONIASIS TESTING AND CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS, WILL BE CHANGED TO AGREE WITH AND INCLUDE THOSE TESTS CITED IN THE OFFICIAL TRICHOMONIASIS TESTS PORTION OF THE DEFINITION SECTION OF THE RULE:**

- FROM:**
- (1) The following official trichomoniasis testing and certification requirements apply to all nonvirgin, sexually intact male cattle imported into Montana or sold, loaned, or leased in Montana, except as provided in ARM 32.3.212:
    - (a) Nonvirgin male cattle must be negative to three official trichomoniasis tests;
      - (i) The tests must be conducted at intervals of no less than seven days between each test;
      - (ii) There must be no breeding activity during the intervals between the three tests or between the final of the three negative tests and the time of import, sale, loan, or lease; and
      - (iii) All tested male cattle must be individually identified at the time of test;

(b) The following statement must be on the certificate of veterinary inspection: "The bull(s) identified on this certificate were negative to three official trichomoniasis tests. The three tests were conducted at intervals of no less than seven days between each test. There was no breeding activity during the intervals between the three tests or between the final test and time of import, sale, loan, or lease in Montana."

**TO:**

(1) The following official trichomoniasis testing and certification requirements apply to all nonvirgin, sexually intact male cattle imported into Montana or sold, loaned, or leased in Montana, except as provided in ARM 32.3.212:

- (a) Nonvirgin male cattle must be negative to three official trichomoniasis tests or to one PCR;
  - (i) The three tests must be conducted at intervals of no less than seven days between each test;
  - (ii) There must be no breeding activity after the PCR or during the intervals between the three tests or between the final of the three negative tests and the time of import, sale, loan, or lease; and
  - (iii) All tested male cattle must be individually identified at the time of test;
- (b) The following statement must be on the certificate of veterinary inspection: "The bull(s) identified on this certificate were negative to three official trichomoniasis (culture) tests or one PCR. The three tests were conducted at intervals of no less than seven days between each test. There was no breeding activity after the one PCR or during the intervals between the three tests or between the final test and time of import, sale, loan, or lease in Montana."

**Definition:**

COMPLETE BULL HERD TEST - means a preputial scraping for T. fetus from each non-virgin bull in the herd.

"HERD" is defined in ARM 32.3.501 as (4) "HERD" means a group or groups of sexually intact cattle 12 months of age or older under common ownership or supervision that have commingled during the previous 12 months.

**ADDITIONAL:**

The Department of Livestock bases this Order on the fact that the PCR test is cited in the adopted definition portion of the new Trichomoniasis rules and to fulfill the statutory requirement to foster, promote and protect the livestock industry of the State of Montana by implementing test requirements that demonstrate scientifically that they are highly specific and sensitive for Trichomonas foetus and that they are not financially burdensome for the industry.